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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 018926-002010US  
Client Ref. No.: D2302

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

On March 17, 2004

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Julie Taylor Clough

**RECEIVED**

MAR 24 2004

Technology Center 2100

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

SPRUNK et al.

Application No.: 09/588,828

Filed: June 7, 2000

For: SELF AUTHENTICATION  
CIPHERTEXT CHAINING

Customer No.: 20350

Examiner: James Seal

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2135

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2003, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.